

## NOTICE

### TEMPORARY USE OF THE RAW FOREST PRODUCTS (RF) OVERWEIGHT PERMIT

Due to the weak conditions of asphalt pavements and the gravel base under them during the late February thru mid March time period, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation has determined that it will no longer consider allowing the use of the 90,000 lbs. Raw Forest Products overweight permit for seven or fourteen day periods between the end of the Frozen Road Declaration period and the beginning of the overweight permit suspension period, commonly referred to as the "Spring Thaw" period, which typically occurs between early March and mid-May.

The continuous hauling of 90,000 lbs. loads over the same section of highway during the pavements weakest conditions can cause damage to the pavement section.

During this period, highway maintenance engineers are concerned about the extent of damage being done to weak pavements when the use of the overweight permits have been allowed. Current highway maintenance repair budgets do not contain sufficient funding to repair these damaged pavement sections.

In the past, the use of the Raw Forest Products overweight permit had been allowed in 13 of the 17 years between the start of the Frozen Road Law in 1984 and the year 2000. Since March, 2000, the use of the Raw Forest Products overweight permit has not been allowed during the period of time between the end of the Frozen Road Declaration and the beginning of the "Spring Thaw".

October 1, 2005